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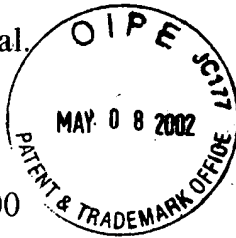
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Haifeng BI et al.

Appl. No. : 09/534,308

Filed : March 23, 2000



Group Art Unit: 2739

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

For : FAULT TOLERANT ATM-BASED DISTRIBUTED VIRTUAL
TANDEM SWITCHING SYSTEM AND METHOD

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, §§1.97-1.98,
applicants call the following information to the Examiner's attention:

Initially, applicants note that the instant application is one of four applications (together with application nos. 09/576,036; 09/562,725, now U.S. Patent No. 6,219,348; and 09/666,839, now U.S. Patent No. 6,345,048) which are either a continuation-in-part or a continuation of application no. 09/287,092, now U.S. Patent No. 6,169,735, which is based on Provisional Application No. 60/083,640. Further, above-mentioned application no. 09/562,725 (U.S. Patent No. 6,219,348) has, based thereon, continuation application no. 09/794,914. Also, above-mention application no. 09/666,839 (U.S. Patent No. 6,345,048) has, based thereon, continuation application no. 10/024,182.

Still further, applicants note application no. 09/487,869 (now U.S. Patent No. 6,343,065) which has, based thereon, continuation application no. 10/015,809. Applicants also note application no. 09/705,793. While these applications are not members of the same patent family as the instant application, they are commonly assigned applications directed to substantially similar subject matter.

Therefore, the purpose of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement is to call to the Examiner's attention any and all references which have been cited during the prosecution of the above-mentioned applications. It is also respectfully suggested that the Examiner review these applications, and the references of record cited after the filing of this statement, when considering the instant application.

The references which have not been cited in the instant application are as follows:

U.S. Patent No. 5,428,607 to HILLER et al., issued on June 27, 1995;

U.S. Patent No. 5,539,884 to ROBROCK, II, issued on July 23, 1996;

U.S. Patent No. 5,781,320 to BYERS, issued on July 14, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,796,836 to MARKHAM, issued on August 18, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,825,750 to THOMPSON, issued on October 20, 1998;

U.S. Patent No. 5,889,773 to STEVENSON, III, issued on March 30, 1999

U.S. Patent No. 5,898,673 to RIGGAN et al., issued on April , 1999;

U.S. Patent No. 5,930,238 to NGUYEN, issued on July , 1999;